Child Development Services structure. Some States have also launched specific schemes to raise the status of the girl child.

Steps Taken to Raise the Standard of University Education

3996. SHRI VAYALAR RAVI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any steps to enhance the standard of University education;

(b) whether the UGC has made any study in this regard;

(c) if so, what are its suggestions; and

(d) the steps taken, if any against any University for decline in the standard of education?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA): (a) to (d) In pursuance of National Policy of Education (NPE)-86, the Government and University Grants Commission (UGC) have taken several initiatives to improve the standard of education in institutions of higher learning. Some of the major steps taken in this regard are:

Revision of pay scales of college and University teachers with effect from 1.1.1986. Opportunities provided for training and career advancement for teachers. All-India Eligibility Test introduced to attract best talent to the teaching profession.

Academic staff colleges established for re-orientation of newly appointed university and college Teachers.

27 Curriculum Development Centres in Sciences and Humanities established to modernise curricula. Model curricula has been prepared for 27 disciplines in undergraduate and post-graduate courses.

Financial assistance provided by UGC for improvement in teaching and research under Special Assistance Programmes, like Centres of Advanced Study (CAS), College Science Improvement Programmes (COSIP), Strengthening of Infrastructure in Science and Technology (COSIST), etc.

Inter-University Centres established by UGC to provide front-line facilities and services for advancement of research in the University system.

Higher priority given to grant of autonomy to selected Colleges and University Departments.

Guidelines for implementation of an Academic Calendar circulated. These guidelines emphasize observance of at least 180 teaching days by Universities/Colleges.

Regulations for minimum standards for the award of first degree, minimum working days etc. notified by UGC.

Blackmarketing of DMS Milk in R.K. Puram

3997. SHRI MAHESHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND DAIRYING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to take stringent action to stop blackmarketing of DMS milk being openly carried out in R.K. Puram with active connivance of the Area's Field Officer;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the action proposed to be taken to check this corrupt practice;

(c) whether Government are aware that the milk booths in the said area have been rented to people unauthorisedly; and

(d) if so, the action proposed to be taken in this connection?